

The Brooklyn Paper

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An evil thief snatched Jedi Master Flynn Michael's \$400 custom lightsaber. Good thing his faithful Padawans, Tyler Welsek and Rich Zack, have his back for now.

Help this Jedi

This 'Star Wars' superfan's lightsaber is gone and you may be his only hope

By Kate Briquelet
The Brooklyn Paper

The force is no longer with him.

Self-proclaimed Jedi Master Flynn Michael is searching the galaxy far and wide for his sto-

len lightsaber — and you, Brooklyn Paper readers, may be his only hope.

The Bedford-Stuyvesant engineer was at a Myrtle Avenue bar last fall when a thief snatched what Obi-Wan Kenobi once de-

scribed as "an elegant weapon for a more civilized age" — a \$400 custom sword Michael used to teach young Jedi honor and self-esteem.

"Who steals somebody's light-

See **JEDI** on page 9

SLUDGE PARKS

Canal's toxic underbelly could become playground

By Daniel Bush
The Brooklyn Paper

The toxic sludge that makes the Gowanus Canal an environmental nightmare would be the foundation for a new park just blocks from the fetid waterway, under a federal proposal.

The Environmental Protection Agency is considering burying some of the sludge dredged from the canal during the Superfund



cleanup in new landfills at the Fourth Street Basin in Gowanus and the Columbia Street Grain Elevator in Red Hook — two sites just a stone's throw away from the foul-smelling inlet —



Sludge from the Gowanus Canal could help fill in the Fourth Street Basin.

then topping the muck with soil to create permanent man-made open space.

The EPA has built similar so-called confined disposal facilities to store treated waste at other toxic sites, including one at the Waukegan Harbor off Lake Michigan in Illinois that was converted into a grassy park space as part of a government cleanup funded

See **SLUDGE** on page 2



A vandal painted what looks like a KISS mask on a statue of the Blessed Mother and baby Jesus at Our Lady of Mount Carmel on Tuesday night.

Bad KISSer

Vandal draws makeup design on W'burg church sculptures

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

Vandals scribbled KISS makeup on beloved statues of the Virgin Mary and baby Jesus at Williamsburg's Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, outraging parishioners who have revered the sculptures for more than 60 years.

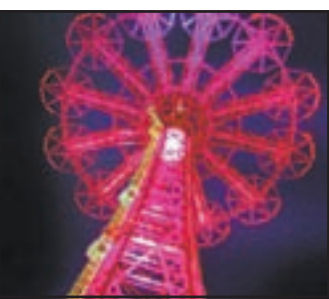
Maintenance workers at the Havemeyer Street house of worship called police last week when they realized someone had marked

up the statues to resemble the masks worn by KISS members Gene Simmons and Paul Stanley.

"It's a terrible thing for anyone to do," said Our Lady of Mount Carmel parishioner Ann Caponegro. "Those statues aren't bothering anybody. It's our religion. How we feel about them is our business. No one should deface them in any way."

The vandals also knocked over a different statue and scrawled

See **KISS** on page 9



Coney Island's Parachute Jump went dark last summer.

Thrillseekers: Bring back the jump

Could Coney's biggest lamppost be a ride again?

By Daniel Bush
The Brooklyn Paper

Borough President Markowitz wants the city to plunk down \$2 million to outfit Coney Island's historic Parachute Jump with enough lights to make it visible from orbit, but amusement ride en-

thusiasts say he should put the money into something more important — updating and reopening the 73-year-old neighborhood icon.

"For a few million dollars I could have hired some engineers and gotten the thing up and running," said Walter

Reiss, an amusement industry expert and former theme park operator said this week, just days after Markowitz said he wanted to turn the Parachute Jump into one of the most expensive light fixtures in history.

"We'll relight the Parachute Jump

with enough bling so it can be seen from outer space," Markowitz promised during his annual State of the Borough address on Feb. 1.

The Economic Development Corporation, the quasi-city agency in charge of funding the project, is backing Markowitz's play, and is poised to seek bids from companies interested in installing lights

on the dark and defunct — but landmarked — 262-foot tower next month, agency spokesman Kyle Sklerov said.

"We are pleased to be working with the borough president to bring additional lighting to the parachute jump," Sklerov said.

But illuminating the Parachute Jump is

See **JUMP** on page 2

Missed connections

Singer scans Craigslist for love stories

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

A love-obsessed singer-songwriter lifts her lyrics straight from the "Missed Connections" section of Craigslist, using the stories of lovelorn Brooklyn subway riders as fodder for her strange-but-romantic ditties.

Tara O'Grady — a swing and pop performer whose Irish immigrant parents landed in Park Slope half a cen-

See **LOVE** on page 9



LOVE RIDES THE L TRAIN: Tara O'Grady sings about Craigslist "missed connections" on Brooklyn subway trains.

Prof's web site links lost lovers

By Kate Briquelet
The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's version of cupid uses e-mails instead of arrows.

Luke DuBois, a digital-media wiz at NYU-Poly, has created a web site that tries to reunite the lonely hearts using Craigslist's "Missed Connections" personals by matching descriptive words from their ads.

"What if, in our idle moments, the

See **MISSED** on page 9



NYU-Poly prof Luke DuBois has created a special web site to reunite the lonely hearts.



Someone stole this South Slope "tree sweater."

Treechery

Arbor sweaters stolen

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

Don't call him a cold criminal.

A thief made off with four "tree sweaters" knit by a Park Slope artist who had fashioned the outfits for arborists to "make the duller, coldest months feel warmer."

The sweater-snatching rascal swiped the hand-made garments from a strip of leafless trees on 16th Street, leaving them embarrassingly naked and prompting an all-out yarnhunt.

"We have searched the immediate neighbor-

hood in case they were dumped somewhere," said Laurie Russell, who spent months conceiving and crafting the street art. "We have put up signs."

The crook removed the colorful, cylindrical garments — which resemble sweaters for giant wiener dogs — around 3 pm on Sunday between Sixth and Seventh avenues, Russell said.

Russell, a 58-year-old painter, first hung the grandma-goes-graffiti art four years ago, adding new pieces in orange,

See **TREE** on page 9

\$100 a sip

Brooklyn's most exclusive — and expensive — beverage

By Kate Briquelet and Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

Behold Brooklyn's liquid gold!

It costs more than three ounces of silver, a barrel of oil or a cup of the finest caviar — but not a single Brooklynite has tasted what's likely the borough's most expensive drink.

No customer has ever ordered a glass of Char No. 4's \$100-per-ounce bourbon, a little-known and extremely rare 24-year-old liquor with complex butterscotch notes

called Martin Mills.

"It's probably the richest and most memorable bourbon I've ever had," said Char No. 4 co-owner Michael Tsoumpas, a whiskey collector who donated that bottle and several others to the high-end meatery on Smith and Baltic streets. "I'd be shocked if it's in a bar anywhere else in the world."

Tsoumpas last sipped the fabled firewater six years ago on a mountainside before The Brooklyn Paper put it to the test this week, with a single ice cube, in the name of journalism.

See **BOURBON** on page 9



Michael Tsoumpas, co-owner of Char No. 4 in Cobble Hill, shows off what's probably the oldest — and priciest — bourbon in Brooklyn.

Foodies on the waterfront

Is Columbia Street about to become the new Smith Street?

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

An award-winning chef famous for his Thai chicken wings will open a hotly anticipated eatery on Columbia Street — and it could be a sign the quiet waterfront neighborhood is ready to emerge as the borough's next dining destination.

Food wizard Andy Ricker, who last year won a James Beard Award (essentially the Oscars of cooking), will turn a storefront near Kane Street into the East Coast outpost of Pok Pok, a beloved Portland eatery that serves authentic northern Thai street grub.



James Beard Award-winning chef Andy Ricker (left) is coming to Columbia Street. Anthony Capone (right), owner of Alma, wants it to become a major dining destination



Ricker — whom the New York Times called the "ambassador for Thai food in the United States" — said he chose the hood after months of research for three reasons: rent is reasonable, it's near the water, and it's on the brink of something big.

"I like being in areas that are underdeveloped or up-and-coming and the Columbia Waterfront certainly fits that profile," he said. "[It] is special for a lot of reasons."

Food critics, restaurateurs and civic leaders have long whispered about the street's chances of becoming a new "restaurant row." And Columbia Street is certainly

See **COLUMBIA** on page 9



Greenwood Heights wants lower speeds

Neighborhood calls for 20 mph limit after protesting Slope's 'slow zone'

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

Greenwood Heights residents want to reduce the speed limit on Sixth Av-

enue, beginning their own push for a "slow zone" after protesting a similar traffic safety plan in Park Slope that emerged without their input.

Civic leaders are trying to cut the speed limit from 30 to 20 miles per hour between the Prospect Expressway and 24th Street to make the street safer for pedes-

trians and to prevent frequent car crashes. But before they call on the city to take action, they want the support of neighboring communities.

"We don't want this to be a 'NIMBY' thing; there are definite speed concerns all over the area," said Aaron Brashear of Concerned Citizens of Greenwood Heights,

who is planning on joining forces with Park Slopers, South Slopers, Windsor Terrarians, Sunset Parkers and all other residents of Community Board 7 to "look at the issue holistically" at a Feb. 28 transportation meeting.

See **SPEED** on page 9

Weeknight Service Changes

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No trains in both directions between
34 St-Penn Station and:

- South Ferry 1 station
- Atlantic Av 23 station

A C E 4 5 trains provide alternate service.

- A C E along 8 Avenue
- 4 5 in Brooklyn and Lower Manhattan

3 service is suspended.

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####FASTRACK

2012 Metropolitan Transportation Authority



Triangle Sports to close

Their lot next to Barclays Center could net big bucks

By Eli Rosenberg
The Brooklyn Paper

The owners of a 96-year-old sporting goods store directly across the street from the nearly finished home of the Brooklyn Nets are cashing out — putting their building up for sale in what speculators say is the beginning of a real estate gold rush sparked by the opening of the new arena.

Triangle Sports owner Henry Rosa said he and his partner, William Shapiro — whose grandparents opened the shop as an Army surplus outfit in 1916 — made the decision to sell after the offers started trickling in over the summer from businesses eager to get in on the action near the soon-to-be-completed Barclays Center.

"Because of the arena, the value has gone up quite a bit," said Rosa, who hinted that the building could garner millions of dollars. "We've gotten solicited by a lot of people making offers and I thought I could be here another 100 years and never make what I'd get for it now."

The triangle-shaped building has already gotten the attention of McDonald's, which eyed the lot bounded by Flatbush Avenue, Fifth Avenue, and Dean Street, a spokesperson from the burger purveyors said.



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

The 96-year-old Triangle Sports on Flatbush Avenue sits opposite the Barclays Center.

Triangle's agent, TerraCRG, has been using the fact that the building sits steps from the entrance of the Barclays Center — where the Nets are scheduled to take the court this fall after concerts by rap mogul Jay-Z — as one of its selling points.

"The Barclays Center will add exponentially to this demand, causing rents in the already scarce available retail

space to surge based on proximity to the stadium," the firm wrote in a glossy pamphlet marketing the property.

Experts say the streets around the behemoth arena could experience a significant shift with the addition of thousands of sports fans passing through for the Nets home games. That makes a property like Triangle Sports a no-brainer for would-be investors, said broker and real estate expert Chris Havens.

"It's worth an awful lot," said Havens. "It will make a great bar or restaurant space."

Some arena neighbors have fought against new pubs in the neighborhood that they believe are targeting Nets fans, disparaging a nine-month-old sports bar on Pacific Street and badgering the proprietor of another planned sports bar until he opened a "farm-to-table" restaurant more in line with the kinds of eateries common in Park Slope. Rosa says that he is holding out for just the right offer before he begins "playing golf everyday" — but he says he's not letting just anybody take over the building.

"I'm going to be selective who we give it to," said Rosa, who lives in Brooklyn Heights. "I'm not just going to go to the highest bidder — I'm cognizant of the ramifications."

SLUDGE...

Continued from page 1
by polluters, said the EPA's Gowanus Canal Superfund project manager Christos Tsiamis.

Workers would retrieve filthy sediment from the least-contaminated sections of the canal, treat the gunk to remove pollutants, and place the sludge in sealed containers roughly eight to 15 feet underground, Tsiamis said.

These steps will ensure sediment scraped from the bottom of the canal, which contains cancer-causing chemicals, will not pose health risks, feds claim.

"[By then] it's not toxic to the touch," Tsiamis said. "It's not a dump for toxic materials."

The EPA is also studying six other ways to get rid of the sludge, which is loaded with heavy metals, chemicals, and coal tar from plants that operated on the banks of the Gowanus for more than a century.

Cleaning up the gunk is just one part of the proposed \$500-million Super-

fund cleanup — and turning the sludge into Brooklyn landfill is likely cheaper than transporting it to an out-of-state treatment plant or dump, Tsiamis said.

Compassionate conservationists in Gowanus said they could live with the sludge

parks — if the waste is disposed of properly.

"There's a social injustice in putting our waste in another community," said Andy Simon, the president of the Gowanus Canal Conservancy. "We're not opposed to [storing it locally] if the EPA can store it safely."

Marlene Donnelly, a member of Friends and Residents of Greater Gowanus, says the pu-

trid sediment shouldn't stray far from its home.

"To take our waste and dump it in someone else's backyard is not a good thing," said Donnelly. "It's the pollution that made Brooklyn. We should live with the result."

The EPA is set to announce a final cleanup plan for the canal later this year, four years before its Superfund cleanup is scheduled to begin.

JUMP...

Continued from page 1
becoming a pricey endeavor: the \$2 million Markowitz has earmarked will bring the lighting bill to a staggering \$3.4 million.

In 2006, the city tapped designer Leri Schwendinger to install a \$1.4 million lighting system consisting of 17 lamps and 150 lighting fixtures that kept the ride illuminated on summer nights.

Two years later, Markowitz convinced Mayor Bloomberg and the Council to set aside an additional \$2 million to redo the lighting system more to his lik-

ing, after complaining that it wasn't bright enough to suit the People's Playground.

That money hasn't been spent, but the city has extinguished Schwendinger's light display — except for several blinking red lights — to make way for the overhaul.

Last Wednesday, Markowitz promised to spend the funds to make Brooklyn's Eiffel Tower shine before he steps down next year.

"I know that this will be done before I leave office," said Markowitz, who will be term-limited out in 2013. Coney Island residents

said a more pimped-out ride would be in keeping with the neighborhood's character.

"Coney Island is not the place for subtlety," said Dick Zigun, the man behind Sideshow by the Seashore. "Marty's right to want something flashier."

But others have long argued the money would be better spent on other projects, such as fixing the dilapidated Boardwalk.

The parachute jump was built for the 1939 World's Fair and relocated to Coney Island two years later. Visitors plummeted for 15 seconds from the top of the tower to the ground below.

The tower closed in 1965, and was declared a city landmark in 1988.

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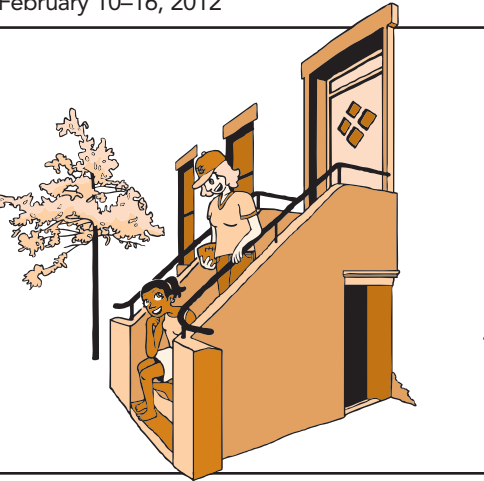
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NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

BAY RIDGE



Charles Otey and Bina Valenzano say closing an eight-block stretch of Third Avenue in Bay Ridge on four nights this summer will bring in business.

Ridge ready to ‘stroll’

Pedestrian plaza may be coming this summer

By Daniel Bush
The Brooklyn Paper

Lawmakers are resurrecting a panned proposal to turn Third Avenue between 81st and 89th streets into an open summertime plaza for shoppers — and merchants who once vehemently opposed the plan now say it could be a commercial boost.

Organizers say their new and improved “Summer Stroll” would close the avenue to traffic on four Fridays in July and August, giving pedestrians free reign to window shop, sample food and drinks from local restaurants, and hear live music at three makeshift stages from 6–11 pm — a prospect they say would attract more shoppers.

“It will benefit the entire community and showcase Bay Ridge as a creative and culturally vibrant area,” said Councilman Vincent Gentile (D–Bay Ridge), who is backing the project along with state Sen. Marty Golden (R–Bay Ridge) and the Merchants of Third Avenue, a civic group for local businesses.

The new stroll is a lot smaller in scale than the one shopkeepers blasted last year: the Merchants of Third Avenue initially wanted to close the avenue to vehicular traffic between 82nd and 92nd streets on nine Fridays in July and August. But that plan didn’t sit well with store owners who feared the temporary malls would be noisy and chaotic, prevent deliveries, encroach on parking spaces along the side streets, and drive away regular customers.

“This plan will just cheapen the neighborhood,” Damien Christopher, the chef at Hom near 88th Street, told us last year.

But Hom and many others are singing a different tune now that organizers have reserved parking spaces for shoppers at the municipal lot on 85th Street and Fifth Avenue, and promised that the sale of alcohol would be limited to restaurants with liquor licenses.

“We have a better plan in place,” said Bina Valenzano, owner of BookMark Shoppe between 84th and 85th streets.

Community Board 10 is expected to vote on the plan at a meeting later this month.

DOWNTOWN



Crash on Boerum Pl.

A motorist ran a red on Feb. 6, struck another vehicle and crashed into the Boulevard East condos on Boerum Place, according to a witness. Both drivers were hospitalized with minor injuries.

BUSHWICK

What’s cooking?

3rd Ward gets \$1.5 million to open kitchen for food industry start-ups

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn’s starving artists won’t have to look far to fill their appetites.

3rd Ward will receive a \$1.5-million grant from Borough President Markowitz to train and nurture the borough’s culinary talents, expanding the Bushwick art space’s do-it-yourself empire into the kitchen.

“This incubator will provide culinary entrepreneurs with the tools, equipment, and workspace that they would otherwise not be able to afford,” said Markowitz, who pledged to fund a culinary hub last year and announced that the city’s Economic Development Corporation had chosen 3rd Ward as the recipient at his State of the Borough Address at Brooklyn College on Wednesday night.

The so-called “culinary incubator” will open in a neighborhood with high lev-



3rd Ward — known mainly for its art programming and less so for its pig roasts (pictured) — is cooking up something new.

els of unemployment, such as Bushwick, Bedford-Stuyvesant, or East New York, according to Crain’s, which broke the story.

A 3rd Ward spokeswoman

said the funding will go toward acquiring a new building for the kitchen separate from its Morgan Avenue flagship. The new space will host cooking classes at all levels and feature a commercial kitchen decked out with professional equipment that will allow entrepreneurial cooks to develop their own food products for Brooklyn’s discerning marketplace, she said.

The popular multi-disciplinary arts and education center is best known for hosting drawing, woodworking, and metalworking classes, art exhibits and craft fairs over the past five years. But it’s not the first time 3rd Ward has put on its chef’s whites.

The organization put together pig roasts, ran a high-end food truck in a reclaimed trailer on Lorimer Street, and is planning to add a cafe to its Morgan Avenue building and a restaurant in its new

Philadelphia outpost.

But the incubator is 3rd Ward’s biggest step into Brooklyn’s booming food industry — and the art space’s neighbors say this could be great for the borough (and that’s not just because they’ll be close to all that food).

Leah Archibald, director of the East Williamsburg Valley Industrial Development Corporation, thinks the communal kitchen could whip up new jobs.

“3rd Ward has been a hive of activity for all sorts of small creative businesses,” said Archibald. “It’s the next logical step to create a hive of activity for food production, which is a growing subsector in manufacturing.”

And there could be more food incubators to follow.

Williamsburg’s Moore Street Market, which received federal and city funding for a new public plaza, is planning on adding a \$300,000 commercial kitchen with 24-hour access and culinary training programs for food start-up businesses.

And Marketshare, a group that arose after the Greenpoint Food Market closed in 2010 because many of its vendors lacked food-handling permits, also wants to open a North Brooklyn commercial kitchen.

FORT GREENE

Towns’s haul

Rep. raises cash, quick

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

Veteran Rep. Ed Towns (D–Fort Greene) raised almost a quarter of a million dollars in the last three months of 2011 — building an impressive war chest that proves that the 76-year-old lawmaker isn’t retiring and will fight for his job.

Towns pulled in \$233,472 after boasting a bank account of just \$11,240 last fall — a figure so low that some political observers thought the longtime legislator would hang up his hat and let state Assemblyman Hakeem Jeffries (D–

Fort Greene) and Councilman Charles Barron (D–Canarsie) duke it out for his seat.

Towns still has \$162,407 to spend, but he lags behind Jeffries, who has \$235,962 left to spend, making him one of just two congressional challengers nationwide to have more cash on hand than the incumbent.

Barron, an underdog candidate who ran a close race against Towns in 2006 despite being outspent, has only \$15,860 on hand.

Towns’ people say he’s just getting started.

“The Congressman is committed to running, he’s going



Rep. Ed Towns

to raise the money, and we expect to do better than we did the last quarter,” said Towns campaign spokesman Al Wiltshire. “We are aggressively raising money, we will raise whatever it takes.”

But Towns’ biggest rival says he’s looking for money in all the wrong places.

A Jeffries spokeswoman

called out Towns for collecting \$112,228 more from political action committees than from individual donors.

So far, Towns has raised \$226,441 from individuals and \$338,669 from lobbying committees.

The Jeffries campaign is quick to point out that Towns has netted about \$132,000 from telecommunications companies since 2007, and last year sponsored a bill that would make it easier for telemarketers to call people on their cellphones. The bill died in Congress.

Jeffries has not refused cash from lobbying committees, but has only brought in \$1,700 from five groups since he started raising money. Two of the groups were pushing for medical marijuana reform.

Towns said that Jeffries’ charges amount to “negative campaigning.”

GREENPOINT

Europa gets sanctioned

Cops temporarily close Greenpoint club

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

Cops temporarily shut down a troubled Greenpoint club on Feb. 2, warning the dance hall next door to their precinct to clean up its act or face even stiffer sanctions.

Deputy Inspector Terence Hurson, the commanding officer of the 94th Precinct, said he got a court order to close Club Europa on Manhattan Avenue because of several violent incidents including a fight among patrons that turned into a brawl with officers.

“It’s not just one incident, this is basically a restraining order,” said Hurson. “This has been in the works for a long time — we have had problems with underage drinking, numerous larcenies and assaults on patrons.”

Michael Siviec, the owner of the nightclub known for its DJ-driven dance parties and Polish programming, negotiated an agreement with the city on Monday that will allow him to reopen on Friday if he adds security cameras and hires licensed security guards, cops said.

But if Club Europa violates the court agreement, police say it will be even easier to shut the venue down.

“If or when problems start happening again I will contact NYPD legal to take action,” said Hurson.

A Europa manager promised the club will only be closed for one week and declined to comment further.

Community Board 1 public safety committee co-chairman Mieszko Kalita was surprised because the group received no complaints about the venue.

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1. Files should be created using CMYK (cyan, magenta, yellow, black) not RGB (red, green, blue) color mode.
2. Black text should be 0%C, 0%M, 0%Y and 100%K.
3. Ideally files should be designed using a vector based program such as Illustrator or InDesign.
4. Files should be saved as High Quality Print PDF files.
5. If the file is designed to bleed (print to the edge) than a bleed must be included. So if the finished size of the printed piece is to be 4" x 4" then the required file size with the bleed is 4.25" x 4.25" with all things intended to bleed extending to those dimensions and all things not meant to bleed be at least a quarter inch away from those edges.

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It’s a sin: Thug steals man’s Jesus chain

78TH PRECINCT

Park Slope
A thug beat up a strap-hanger on Seventh Avenue on Feb. 5.
The victim told cops that he was inside the Seventh Avenue F train station near Ninth Street at 6:45 am when a long-haired man ran up to him. The man punched the unlucky commuter in the head and grabbed his \$800 gold necklace—which was adorned with Jesus Christ’s face—before fleeing the station.
Black bag
A creep snatched a bag

of cash from a meat delivery guy on Ninth Street on Jan. 30.
A worker from Los Primos Meat Market told cops that he delivered cuts to a Latin restaurant near Fifth Avenue at 2 pm and collected \$5,000, which he put in a black bag. He then went to climb into his delivery truck—but a man ran up from behind, threatened him with a gun and snatched the bag.
Bad taste
A thief stole thousands of bucks from a wine shop on Seventh Avenue on Jan. 30.
The owner of Slope Cellers near 15th Street told cops

that two men busted the lock on the front door at 5 am, then stole a safe full of \$6,000—but took no vino.
Quick ... stop!
A jerk snatched a wallet from a car at a gas station on Third Avenue on Jan. 31.
The victim told cops that he pulled into a Citgo station near Butler Street at 1:20 pm and set his leather wallet in the back of the car while he pumped gas.
He then waked into the station’s shop, came back to his car 10 minutes later—and discovered his wallet was gone.
— **Natalie O’Neill**

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights–DUMBO–Boerum Hill–Downtown
Diamond heist
A crook stole a man’s \$4,000 ring inside of the Family Court building on Jay Street on Jan. 26.
The victim said he left the diamond ring in a bathroom inside the building near Tech Place at 2:30 pm. When he went returned one hour later, the ring was missing.
Macy’s malice
A thief stole a wallet from a shopper at Macy’s on Feb. 2.
The victim told police that she left the wallet near the register at the Fulton Street department store at 12:30 pm. When she returned for it 15 minutes later, the wallet was no longer there.
iPhone swiped
A crook stole a man’s iPhone at the Court Street subway station on Jan. 30.
The victim said he was riding a Bay Ridge-bound R train at 7:40 pm when the thief grabbed his cellphone and hopped off the train.
— **Daniel Bush**

76TH PRECINCT

Carroll Gardens–Cobble Hill–Red Hook
Cash envelope
A thief stole cash from a business on Dikeman Street on Jan. 19.
The crook entered the building near Ferris Street through an unlocked window sometime after 5:30 pm, taking an envelope containing \$4,800 out of the building’s financial office, according to cops.
Knife mug
A knife-wielding jerk robbed a woman on Court Street on Jan. 23.
The victim told police she was between Nelson and Luquer streets at 6:10 pm when a woman approached her from behind.
“Give me the phone, or I’ll cut you,” she barked while displaying a silver knife, cops said. She then took the victim’s \$50 BlackBerry and fled.
Pharm attack
A woman was arrested after allegedly attacking a teller and stealing toiletries from a pharmacy on Court

POLICE BLOTTER

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Street on Jan. 25.
Police said the woman entered the drug store between First and Second places around 1:45 pm and went to leave the store with about \$80 worth of shampoos, lotions and other bathroom products, without paying.
That’s when a store clerk tried to stop her, but she responded by allegedly attacking and punching him before fleeing, he claimed.
Cops say they arrested a woman who fit the suspect’s description.
— **Colin Mixson**

77TH PRECINCT

Prospect Heights
Free massage
A stressed-out crook treated himself to a massage at a Vanderbilt Avenue parlor on Jan. 31—and didn’t pay the tab.
A witness told cops that the thief received a full body massage at Shanghai Stress Free between Prospect and Park places at 7 pm, before leaving without settling the \$85 tab.
Be car-ful
A crafty crook stole a car parked on St. Marks Avenue on Jan. 30.
The victim told cops that he parked his 2005 Mazda sedan between Underhill and Washington avenues at 5 pm on Jan. 30. When he returned the next day at 3 pm, he discovered it was gone.
Soda popped
Two thieves broke into the basement of a bar on Vanderbilt Avenue on Feb. 4, said cops.
The duo allegedly entered Soda Bar, near St. Marks Avenue, at 9:35 pm, and left with \$150 and a camera. Police said they arrested two suspects.
— **Eli Rosenberg**

88TH PRECINCT

Fort Greene–Clinton Hill
Apple picking
A heartless marauder threw a woman to the ground and nabbed her iPhone on DeKalb Avenue on Feb. 5.
The victim told cops that she was near Hudson Avenue at 6:30 am when the brute yelled, “Get the f---k down!” and knocked her over.
The suspect then yanked her mobile and headphones and fled.
Gang of four
A band of teens mugged a man on the Nevins Street subway platform for his iPhone on Jan. 30.
The victim told cops that he had just exited a Brooklyn-bound 4 train at 8:25 pm when the crew surrounded him. One of the perps grabbed his neck while another yanked his mobile.
The young crooks hopped on another train and fled.
Calling collect
A backstabbing palswiped a man’s cellphones and cash as he dozed in his apartment on Washington Avenue on Feb. 1.
The victim told police that he invited his friend to his digs near Lafayette Avenue at 10 pm.
When he woke up, his iPhone, Android mobile, and \$300 were gone.
Cashed out
A petty pickpocket lifted \$3,700 from a woman at Daffy’s in the Atlantic Center Mall on Feb. 3.
The Russian victim told police through a translator that she entered the women’s chain near Flatbush Avenue at about 2 pm. An hour later, she realized her cash, wallet, and cards were gone.
She said she had just withdrawn money from a bank and forgot to zip her bag shut before she shopped.
String along
A burglar nabbed a woman’s \$30,000 guitar from her Lafayette Avenue apartment.
The victim told cops that she kept the instrument in the basement of her home near Clermont Avenue and last saw it in fall of 2009.
Her first floor tenants, construction men, and ex husband have previously had access to the residence, she said.
— **Kate Briquetelet**

68TH PRECINCT

Bay Ridge–Dyker Heights
Snapp-ed!
A spazz smashed a woman’s hand with a Snapple bottle at a 13th Avenue store on Feb. 2.
The victim told cops that she got in an argument with another customer at the shop between 68th Street and Bay Ridge Avenue at 3:27 pm. Her attacker grabbed a glass Snapple bottle and hit her right hand, cutting her, the victim said.
Pocket picked
A crafty pickpocket swiped \$50 from a woman shopping at an Eighth Avenue store on Feb. 3.
The victim told cops that she was perusing the aisles at the store between 63rd and 64th streets at 10 am when she noticed her wallet was missing from her purse.
Headphone jack
Violent punks robbed a teen for his headphones inside a Gelston Avenue apartment building on Feb. 3.
The victim told cops that a dangerous duo approached him at 3:45 pm inside the building between 93rd and 94th streets and demanded his headphones.
One goon punched him in the face while trying to pull the ’phones off his head.
— **Dan MacLeod**

94TH PRECINCT

Greenpoint–Northside
Frosty robbery
Two vicious robbers stole \$300 from a cab driver on Frost Street on Feb. 5.
The driver told police that he was sleeping in his car that was parked near Union Avenue at 5:40 am when the perps entered the back seat of his vehicle. One put a knife to the victim’s neck and demanded the cash.
The driver got out of the car and fought with the thieves, during which time one thug punched him in the face while the other took the cash out of his pocket before both fled.
Lock box
A thief stole \$26,635 worth of construction tools from a Clay Street site.
The foreman closed and locked the site near McGuinness Boulevard at 2 pm on Jan. 29, but when he returned at 9 am the next day, he saw the

chains and locks were cut and the lock boxes were stolen.
TV fan
Cops arrested a thief who they said tried to steal a TV from a Manhattan Avenue apartment on Feb. 3.
A witness told police that the would-be robber broke into the apartment near Clay Street at 3:58 pm. Officials said responding officers found the man laying on the bed inside the apartment.
— **Aaron Short**

90TH PRECINCT

Southside–Bushwick
Pool stabbing
A knife-wielding thug stabbed a man in his left hand and belly outside a Grand Street pool hall on Feb. 4.
The victim was playing pool at the hall near Roebling Street at 3:30 am when he saw his friends having a dispute with the hoodlum on the street. So he ran outside to break up the fight, but the thug pulled out a knife and stabbed him once in his left hand and twice in the belly, and then ran away.
Golf outing
Fivethugs repeatedly struck a man with golf clubs at S. Third Street on Feb. 4.
The man was on Hooper Street at 3:30 am when the group approached him. One shouted, “Get him!” then they all started striking the man’s face and body with the clubs.
They fled a few minutes later.
Botched mug
Police arrested a resident of a Majuer Street building who they say tried to rob a delivery man inside the building on Feb. 4.
The victim was making the delivery to the man’s apartment near Graham Avenue at 10:40 am when the man allegedly pulled the delivery man into the doorway of his apartment, pointed a silver gun in his face, and said, “Give me the f--- money, mother---.”
The delivery man told cops he refused the man’s demands. That’s when he allegedly followed the victim outside the building and said, “Give me the money or I’ll kill you,” but the victim again refused and called the police.
Cops say they arrested a suspect shortly after.
— **Aaron Short**

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BROOKLYN BUSINESS STYLE — ADVERTISEMENT

La Luz can make your home a brighter place

The staff at La Luz has the experience and knowledge to help you choose the right piece that will make your home shine.

By Camille Sperrazza

The right lighting makes all the difference in the world.
Lighting is key to defining your home. It helps create the atmosphere. It can bring about a feeling of warmth and comfort, or, it can be stark and cold.
You can fill your home with expensive pieces of furniture and artwork, but if the lighting doesn’t work, what’s inside the home won’t be appreciated.

This high-end, retail lighting store in Red Hook carries chandeliers, fixtures, lamps, shades, wall sconces, and more.
La Luz carries numerous light fixtures, by various manufacturers, so it has something suitable for every room in the house, and for every budget.
La Luz also carries exterior and

If you’re not sure how to put your home in the best possible light, ask the experts at La Luz.
This high-end, retail lighting store in Red Hook carries chandeliers, fixtures, lamps, shades, wall sconces, and more.
La Luz carries numerous light fixtures, by various manufacturers, so it has something suitable for every room in the house, and for every budget.
La Luz also carries exterior and

landscaping lighting and can provide parts for fixtures, such as ballasts.
La Luz is not just about the dazzling light fixtures and other pieces. It’s about the insight the folks at the store can provide, including owner Janet Rios, who has more than 18 years’ experience in the lighting business.
The in-depth consultation is all part of the outstanding service you can expect to find here, in contrast to the big box stores that don’t have the same expertise.
La Luz can help you with lighting layout and design in your house, apartment or business. In addition, they offer lighting consultations at your location.
The business works with a number of architects and designers throughout the city and the Hamptons. The company is also certified with the city as a Minority Women Business Enterprise.
If you are looking for an elegant, contemporary, traditional or shabby-chic look, La Luz can help.
When you’re ready to light up your life, visit La Luz.
La Luz [179 Richards St. between Wolcott and Dikeman streets in Red Hook, (718) 909-3391] Open Mondays through Fridays, 10 am – 6 pm, and Saturdays, 11 am – 4 pm. For more, visit www.laluzinc.com. “Like” them on Facebook.

Photos by Paul Martinka

Owner Janet Rios has 18 years experience in the business, and can help you choose the best lighting design for your home.



(718) 260-2500 The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings February 10–16, 2012

Feel the love

Aphrodisiacs sure to get you going on Valentine's Day

By Sarah Zorn
for The Brooklyn Paper

Candle light. Romantic poems. Your significant other doing the dishes for once in his or her life. All these go a long way in fanning the flames of passion on Valentine's Day — but nothing stirs the soul (and body) quite as effectively as a bar of 72-percent chocolate, a glass of red wine, and maybe an avocado thrown in for good measure.

That's because they've long been considered to be natural aphrodisiacs — foods that induce sexual desire — increasing serotonin levels and boosting blood flow while tasting devastatingly delicious, all at the same time.

Want to get some real bang for your buck this Valentine's Day (pun intended)? The aphrodisiac-loving dishes at these great area restaurants will definitely double your pleasure — and double your fun.

RED WINE
The Owl's Head: Nothing gets the juices flowing like a perfect glass of red wine, and the sultry vinos served at Bay Ridge newcomer The Owl's Head will get any night started off right. "Like the love between two people, each different wine has received a very particular treatment before it reaches the table," said owner John Avelluto. "It's upon pulling the cork that we get to share in a complex romance within the bottle and, now, with the person we clink our glasses with." Extra credit in the romance department if you pair your soft and velvety glass



Photo by Stefano Giovannini



Photo by Elizabeth Graham



Feed the fire: (Pictured clockwise from left) Chocolatier Troy Odell gears up for Valentine's Day at Jacques Torres. Keep things sexy with this lobster and blood orange ceviche with crostini at Owl's Head in Bay Ridge — then order a chocolate-hazelnut bread pudding for good measure.

The science behind the sexy

Suggestive shapes and mind-altering compounds make the following foods so damn sexy.

Red Wine: Besides being intoxicating — literally — red wine contains resveratrol, which boosts blood flow and improves circulation before and after intercourse.

Chocolate: Pure chocolate contains a host of feel-good compounds, including phenylethylamine — which releases dopamine in the pleasure centers of the brain and peaks during orgasm.

Avocados: Referred to by the ancient Aztecs as the "testicle tree." Catholic Priests in Spain also found the fruit so overtly sexual that they forbade it.

Bananas: More than just a sight gag, bananas contain the bromelain enzyme, said to enhance the male libido.

Honey: The sweet stuff is loaded with boron, a mineral that helps metabolize estrogen and enhances testosterone levels, promoting sex drive in men and women.

Beets: Not only are beets high in boron — which produces sexual hormones and improves the immune system — they play host to the isobutyl



open fig is also thought to emulate the female sex organ.

Oysters: Sultry shape and alluring mouthfeel aside, oysters — pictured here at Five Leaves in Greenpoint — contain D-aspartic acid and N-methyl-D-aspartate, effective in releasing sexual hormones such as testosterone and estrogen.

Almonds: Long regarded as a fertility symbol, the aroma of almonds supposedly arouses passion in women.

Basil: The stimulating scent of this sweet herb is said to set hearts aflutter. Also thought to boost fertility and promote circulation.

Asparagus: These sexy spears are a great source of folic acid — which boosts histamine production necessary for achieving orgasm.

Garlic: This potent allium is full of allicin, which increases blood flow.

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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

WEDNESDAY

February 15

Greene scene

Fort Greene's famous black writers want you to remember the neighborhood of the 1980s and '90s, when Spike Lee, Branford Marsalis and other creative minds made it a mecca for young artists. Join Nelson George for a night of storytelling where a crew of leading authors will host a panel discussion on the local truths that inspired their fiction.

7 pm. Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between Lafayette Avenue and Hanson Place in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200]. Free. For info, visit www.greenlightbookstore.com.

THURSDAY

February 16

We heart Glaser

Graphic design legend Milton Glaser will head to DUMBO to celebrate his forthcoming book, "In Search of the Miraculous, or One Thing Leads to Another," a retrospective that spans his long and prosperous career. "Most people don't know what they're talking about when they say 'design,'" Glaser said. It's ok; we trust him to figure it all out for us.

7 pm. powerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-1331]. Free, for info visit www.powerhouse-arena.com.

FRIDAY

February 17

Toga! Toga!

Throw your hands up and shout! Otis Day and the Knights, a fictional-turned-actual band from "Animal House" fame will bring its rock 'n roll antics to Brooklyn Bowl for a good old fashioned toga party. So don your best drapery and show up early; in true frat party fashion, you'll be treated to a free beer.

9 pm. Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369]. \$15, for info visit www.brooklynbowl.com.

SATURDAY

February 18

All aboard!

St. Ann's Warehouse will host the Wooster Group theater company and the New York City Players as they perform three of legendary playwright Eugene O'Neill's earliest one-acts, each taking place at a different point during a sea voyage. "Bound East for Cardiff," "The Long Voyage Home," and "The Moon of the Caribbees," are semi-autobiographical, so expect drunk sailors, bad economic times, and plenty 'o drama.

8 pm. St. Ann's Warehouse [38 Water St. between Main and Dock streets in DUMBO, (718) 254-8779]. \$22. For info, visit www.stannswarehouse.org.

SUNDAY

February 19

Tokyo mix

Billed as the first disk jockey to utilize the turntable as a live instrument, the venerable DJ KRUSH is departing the Land of the Rising Sun to enlighten Brooklyn with his ever-evolving brand of electronica. The internationally acclaimed DJ, has released eight award-winning electronic albums.

8 pm. Music Hall of Williamsburg [66 North 6th St. between Kent and Wythe avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 486-5400]. \$15, for info, visit www.brooklynbowl.com

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, FEB. 10

WORKSHOP, FUN FRIDAYS: Children get together with friends and play video games and read. Free. 4 pm. Eastern Parkway Public Library [1044 Eastern Pkwy. at Kingston Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 778-9330], www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

READING, JUST WORKING ON MY BREAKUP — VALENTINE'S DAY READING!: Flip off V-day with an evening of sad stories and broken hearts. Free. 7 pm. WORD [126 Franklin Street between Milton and Noble streets in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096], www.wordbrooklyn.com.

DANCE, BOOGALOO AND LATIN SOUL DANCE PARTY: Brooklyn Botanic Garden presents "Lush," a dance in the garden featuring DJ Turmix. \$65. 8 pm. Brooklyn Botanic Garden [1000 Washington Ave., at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, (718) 623-7220], www.bbg.org.

THEATER, "FOLLOW THE LEADER": An evening of short plays about cults. 8:30 pm. Triskelion Arts [118 N. 11th St. between Berry Street and Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (917) 270-7279], www.PanickedProductions.com.

SAT, FEB. 11

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, MO BEASLEY'S LOVES-TORM: Free. 8 pm. BAMCafe [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129], www.bam.org.

MUSIC, DANIEL KELLY'S RAKONTO: \$10. 8 pm. Brooklyn Conservatory of Music, (718) 622-3300.

THEATER, "FOLLOW THE LEADER": 8:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 10.

OTHER

TAX HELP: State Sen. Marty Golden is sponsoring income tax preparation for seniors; by appointment only. Free. 9 am–11:30 am. District office [7408 Fifth Ave. at 74th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 238-6044].

CITIZENSHIP PREP: For immigrants planning on applying for US citizenship. Registration required. Free. 10:30 am–1:30 pm and 1:30–4:30 pm. Prospect Park YMCA [357 Ninth St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 768-7100], www.ymcanyc.org.

READING, "REINVENTING THE PAST" LITERARY FESTIVAL: Featuring Chris Adrian, Catalin Dorian Florescu, Inka Parei and Linda Stiff, in conversation with Daniel Kehlmann. Free. 6 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.

THE MEET ME IN PARIS PARTY: A clandestine French cabaret with live music, burlesque, variety acts and late-night dancing. \$10. 8 pm. RSVP for address. www.geminianscorpio.com/events.

Double the fun: Go check out the jazztastic twin La Boeuf Brothers at Sycamore on Feb. 18.

SUN, FEB. 12

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, CHAMBER MUSIC CON-CERT: \$20. 3 pm. Brooklyn Heights Synagogue [131 Remsen St. between Clinton and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 855-3053], www.brooklynfriendsofchambermusic.com.

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: Sofya Melikyan performs the works of Schumann, Liszt, Faure and Debussy. Free. 4 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch [Flatbush Ave. at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100], www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

MUSIC, FRED ARMISEN'S PLAYLIST LIVE!: Comedian and "Portlandia" star's one-man show. 8 pm. Union Pool [484 Union Ave. at Meeker Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 609-0484], www.myspace.com/unionpool.

THEATER, "FOLLOW THE LEADER": 8:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 10.

OTHER

MERCH MART: Fundraiser to help transplant recipient Alexander Berman defray the costs of treatment.

CIVIC CALENDAR

MON, FEB. 13

Community Board 14, Monthly meeting; agenda includes debate over zoning laws, unwanted telephone poles, and hopefully, bike lanes; 7:30pm; PS 249, 18 Marlborough Rd, between Caton and Church avenues; (718) 282-8828; www.catonschool.org.

TUE, FEB. 14

Dyker Heights Civic Association, Monthly meeting; 8 pm; St. Philips Church Hall, 1072 80th St. between 10th and 11th avenues; (718) 748-1797.

WED, FEB. 15

Community Education Council District 21, Monthly meeting; agenda - guest speaker representative from the Office of School Wellness; and welcome Andrea Ciliotta, principal of the Brooklyn 66th Precinct Community Council. Monthly meeting; 7:30 pm; Community Board 12 office, 5910 13th Ave. at 60th Street; (718) 851-0800; www.brooklyn12.org.

THURS, FEB. 16

Community Board 6 Police and Public Safety Committee, Monthly meeting. Agenda- Licensing applications for various restaurants and cabarets; 7 pm; Community Board 10 office, 8119 Fifth Ave. between 81st and 82nd streets; (718) 745-6827.

Community Board 18, Monthly meeting; 8 pm; Kings Plaza meeting room, Flatbush Ave. at Avenue U; (718) 241-0422.

Studio Secondary School; 6:30 pm; PS 128, 2075 84th St. at 20th Avenue; (718) 714-2503; www.cecd21.org.

Community Board 6 Police and Public Safety Committee, Monthly meeting. Agenda- Licensing applications for various restaurants and cabarets; 7 pm; Community Board 10 office, 8119 Fifth Ave. between 81st and 82nd streets; (718) 745-6827.

Community Board 18, Monthly meeting; 8 pm; Kings Plaza meeting room, Flatbush Ave. at Avenue U; (718) 241-0422.

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail Calendar@cnglocal.com

http://

Find lots more listings online at BrooklynPaper.com/Events

Proceeds will be donated to the National Foundation for Transplants in Berman's name. Free. 1 pm–6 pm. Bar Matchless [557 Manhattan Ave. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (800) 489-3863], www.transplants.org.

MON, FEB. 13

WORKSHOP, COMPUTER BASICS: Adults learn basic skills. No experience necessary. Free. 1 pm. Eastern Parkway Public Library [1044 Eastern Pkwy. at Kingston Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 778-9330], www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

FILM, "ITALY": For adults. Free. 1:30 pm. Brighton Beach Public Library [16 Brighton First Rd. at Brightwater Court in Brighton Beach, (718) 946-2917], www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

BEGINNER'S ESL: Students learn basic structure and vocabulary. Registration required. Free. 6:15 pm–9:15 pm. Prospect Park YMCA [357 Ninth St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 768-7100], www.ymcanyc.org.

TALK, EDUCATION PANEL: Abrahm Lackman, Sol Stern, James Cultrara and Joe Williams discuss the tension between public and charter schools. Free. 7 pm–9 pm. St. Francis College [180 Remsen St., between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 489-5200].

READING, NAOMI BENARON: Author of "Running the Rift." Free. 7 pm. WORD [126 Franklin Street between Milton and Noble streets in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096], www.wordbrooklyn.com.

THEATER, "FOLLOW THE LEADER": 8:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 10.

TUES, FEB. 14

WORKSHOP, ENGLISH CONVERSATION: Adults practice conversational speech. Free. 1 pm. Coney Island Public Library [1901 Mermaid Ave. at West 19th Street in Coney Island, (718) 265-3220], www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

FILM, MOVIE TIME: A different title each week. For adults. Free. 2 pm. Clinton Hill Library [380 Washington Ave. at Lafayette Ave. in Clinton Hill, (718) 398-8713], www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

ROOTS OF SAMBA: Just in time for Carnival, Grupo Ribeiro performs Afro Brazilian music and the dance. Free. 3 pm–4:30 pm. St. Francis College [180 Remsen St., between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 489-5200].

BEGINNER'S ESL: 6:15 to 9:15 pm. See Monday, Feb. 13.

See 9 DAYS on page 8

CNG

Community Newspaper Group

The Brooklyn Paper

Your Neighborhood — Your News®

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Bay Ridge Paper, Bensonhurst Paper,

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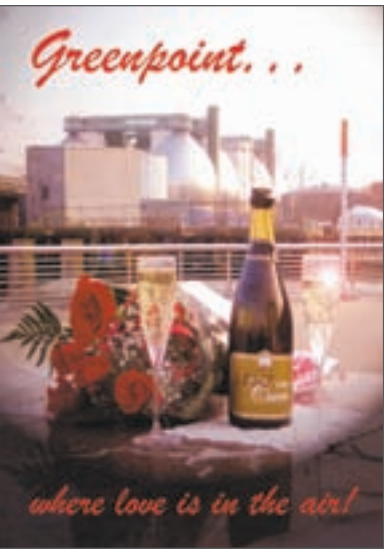
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Courtesy of Heather Letzkus

Breathe it in: Take a tour of the dazzling Wastewater Treatment Plant in Greenpoint on Valentine's Day with your sweetheart.

Love stinks!

A Valentine's Day visit to a sewage plant

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

Nothing says I love you like the smell of sewage in the morning. The Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant will offer a romantic early morning tour of its Greenpoint sludge-processing facility on Feb. 14, perhaps the strangest way to show your date you care—or subtly indicate that things aren't working out. Put on some comfortable boots, snuggle up with your companion,

CULTURE

Guided Tour of the Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant [329 Greenpoint Ave. at Humboldt Street in Greenpoint, (718)595-6600] Feb. 14, 9:30-11:30 am. For reservations, email events@dep.nyc.gov.

and hold your breath when the plant's ruggedly handsome superintendent, Jimmy Pynn, explains how the city cleans 1.3 billion gallons of wastewater each day.

You'll get to see every aspect of the plant's waste treating process, and even take a trip through its suggestively shaped digester tanks, where plucky microorganisms break down what you and your date ate for lunch yesterday, producing methane and carbon dioxide gas. And at the end of the tour, Pynn will give each attendee a Hershey's Kiss — because there's nothing sweeter than protecting the environment. Just take your date to a nice dinner later, to hedge your bets.

BAR SCRAWL



By Bill Roundy

When it's cold, I recommend a one-block trek from Smith Street to the Black Mountain Wine House.

Brrr!

You can refuel on its small plates menu (all \$10)

Try the mac & cheese!

And warm up with a mulled red wine.

\$8

Or sample the many other wine options * while sitting by the fire.

* Red, white, sparkling, sherry, port (\$6.50-\$11)

Specials: Chicken 6, Local 10, Roast 10, Roast 10, Roast 10

Ah...

Black Mountain Wine House [415 Union St., at Hoyt Street in Carroll Gardens, (718) 522-4340]. Open Mon-Fri, 4 pm-midnight; Sat-Sun, 3 pm-midnight. For more info, visit www.blackmountainwinehouse.com.

LOVE...

Continued from page 5

the potato-garlic-almond spread skordalia — may not sound like the sexiest dish going in, but the body- and soul-altering properties of its aphrodisiacal ingredients make it a potent potion indeed.

Yiasou [2003 Emmons Ave. at Ocean Avenue in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 332-6064].

BANANAS Press 195: Can a sandwich be sexy? Hell yeah, if it's a Banana Bread Press (\$10), stuffed with fresh banana and strawberry slices, pure maple syrup (or Nutella), ice cream, and candied walnuts. "It's creamy, sweet and delicious," said manager Cameron Lewyn, "and meant to serve two, so sharing it with a loved one makes it sexy right off the bat."

Press 195 [195 Fifth Ave. between Berkeley Place Sackett Street in Park Slope, (718) 857-1950].

HONEY Walter's: This elegant Fort Greene restaurant is a given for romantic, Valentine's Day interludes — especially when you order up a plate of finger-licking fried chicken slathered in sweet and sticky swirls of spicy honey (\$16). Don't forget to share.

Walter's [166 DeKalb Ave. between Carlton Avenue and Cumberland Street in Fort Greene, (718) 488-7800].

ASPARAGUS, BASIL Piccoli To Go: You won't need to hail a cab home after experiencing the stimulating effects of the Pesto Genovese (\$9.50) at this tasty takeaway spot. The homemade fettuccini with creamy pesto and asparagus easily reheats at home — as will you.

Piccoli [157 Prospect Park SW between Vanderbilt and Seeley Streets in Windsor Terrace, (718) 788-0006].

FIGS Beast tapas + lounge: Exotic, succulent figs are effortlessly sensual, and displayed to delicious effect at Beast tapas + lounge in Prospect Heights. "It's like stepping into the Garden of Eden without all the rules," said chef/owner D.S. Bicknese of her caramelized onion and fig pesto tart with goat cheese and watercress salad (\$13). We're sold!

Beast [638 Bergen St. between Carlton and Vanderbilt Avenues in Prospect Heights, (718) 399-6855].

OYSTERS Five Leaves: As far as edible aphrodisiacs are concerned, no one would kick the libido enlivening oyster out of bed — and when your sweetie tosses back a half dozen market mollusks (\$15) at this genial, Aussie eatery — she'll be pulling you back in for another go-round, too.

Five Leaves [18 Bedford Ave. between Lorimer Street and Nassau Avenue in Greenpoint, (718) 383-5345].

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From January 6 through February 14, every \$14 that you spend at any participating BID business will earn you one ticket for our

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2nd Prize
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\$300*

*All prizes to be spent at any one or several of the over 500 Park Slope 5th Avenue BID member businesses from Dean to 18th Streets.

Raffle Drawing: February 14

For details, rules, a list of participating businesses where raffle tickets can be earned and submitted, as well as a complete directory of all BID member businesses please visit: www.ParkSlopeFifthAvenueBID.com/Raffle

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Tickets include all-day admission to the museum.

Tickets at OSLmusic.org or call 212.594.6100

Brooklyn is for lovers

Get tongue-tied at the borough’s most romantic spots

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

Pucker up, Brooklyn! You don’t have to stray too far from home this Valentine’s Day to visit some of the city’s most romantic spots. So put on a coat, grab your main squeeze, and make some memories at the borough’s loveliest places—before you get the urge to rush back indoors and make some more.

Brooklyn Botanic Garden
Did you know there are over 12,000 kinds of plants at the Brook-

lyn Botanic Garden? Unfortunately, most of them are dead this time of year. But that shouldn’t rule out a trip to the Botanic Garden where you can gaze at its South African bulb collection the Steinhardt Conservatory’s Warm Temperate House, or see some frighteningly named hellebores and a few freakish daffodils at the southern end of the garden. And if you’re looking for love, the garden hosts several perennial parties, including a salsa dance party on Friday night. “The garden is one of the best

places to meet someone male or female who is not a creep,” said Botanic Garden spokeswoman Kate Blumm. How about that! **Coney Island Boardwalk** Just because the rides are closed doesn’t mean you can’t enjoy the splendors of the People’s Playground. Take a stroll on the boardwalk, and pull your date in tight as the wind whips toward you at 30 miles an hour off the harbor. Plus, there are plenty of places off the beach to swoop in for a bite.

Ocean Avenue Footbridge If Coney’s not your thing, here’s another quietly romantic spot at the other end of the bay. Walk down Emmons Avenue toward Manhattan Beach and turn onto the wooden planks of the Ocean Avenue footbridge. The salty air and view of sailboats bobbing in the bay should put you and your date in the mood for some Manhattan clam chowder at Randazzo’s Clam Bar, just across the street. **Brooklyn Bridge Park** Brooklyn’s newest park is its grandest — and you should take

full advantage now that the crowds are sparse. Walk though the frozen sod to Pier 1 at sunset and catch the golden rays of winter’s setting sun refract off the silvery Manhattan skyline—and pull your date in tight for a smooch. Then get on your high horse for a nostalgic ride on Jane’s Carousel—but try not to kiss while you’re motion because if you fall, you’ll get ground into hamburger in the ride’s powerful gears. **Commandant Mansion at Little and Evans Streets** At the top of Vinegar Hill at Little and Evans Streets, there’s the stately Commandant Mansion, which was built in 1805 and has been part of the Brooklyn Navy Yard since 1964. Good luck sneaking inside, but the secluded cul-de-sac happens to be a favorite make-out spot for our friends at L Magazine. We suggest topping it off with a lovely brunch at Vinegar Hill House.



Smooch: Eric Justusson and Riana Moring-Parris steal a kiss at Brooklyn Bridge Park.

This Valentine’s weekend, experience

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9 DAYS...

Continued from page 6

VALENTINES CELEBRATION: Have a delicious chocolate from Tumbador, beer from the Brooklyn Brewery and Bronx Brewery and then listen to stories, poems and Brooklyn historian Joe Dorinson, Michele Carlo and Nickie D. \$15 (\$10 members). 7 pm–10 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111], www.brooklynhistory.org.

LOVE BITES: Live performances by Amber Martin, Mark Rinzel, Corn Mo, Cathy Cervenka, Tony Z, Yana Chupenko, Chris Hall, Sophia Ramos, Watt White, Kevin Brennan, Militia, Mike Maenza, John Cappadona and Cherie Martorana. \$7. 8 pm. Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369], www.brooklynbowl.com.

THEATER, “FOLLOW THE LEADER”: 8:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 10.

WED, FEB. 15

THEATER, POETRY SLAM: A contest for high school students. Free. 4 pm. Kumble Theater at Long Island University [DeKalb and Flatbush avenues in Downtown, (718) 488-1624], www.poetryoutloud.org.

WORKSHOP, TANGO LESSONS: For adults and youngsters interested in ballroom dancing. No experience and no partners necessary. Sponsored by the FIAO Beacon program. Pre-registration for youngsters required. Free. 6 pm–9 pm. IS 96 [99 Ave. P at W. 11th Street in Bensonhurst, (718) 232-2266].

BEGINNER’S ESL: 6:15 to 9:15 pm. See Monday, Feb. 13.

READING, FORT GREENE’S BLACK WRITERS: An evening of literary history in honor of Black History Month. Free. 7:30 pm. Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200], greenlightbookstore.com.

THEATER, “FOLLOW THE LEADER”: 8:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 10.

THURS, FEB. 16

WORKSHOP, ENGLISH CONVERSATION: 1 pm. See Tuesday, Feb. 14.

ACTORS LECTURE: The cast of “Wicked” will speak at Backstage Careers in Theater. Free. 1 pm–2:30 pm. Voorhees Theater [186 Jay St. at Tillary Street in Downtown, (718) 260-5588].

WORKSHOP, CROCHET: Adults meet every week and work on their projects. 2 pm. Midwood Public Library [975 E. 16th St. between Avenues J and I in Midwood, (718) 252-0967], www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

TAX HELP: 6–8 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 11.

READING, MILTON GLASER: The famed graphic designer will discuss his new book, “In Search of the Miraculous: Or, One Thing Leads to Another.” 6 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.

BEGINNER’S ESL: 6:15 to 9:15 pm. See Monday, Feb. 13.

FILM, “FREEDOM RIDERS”: Free. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Public Library’s Central branch [Flatbush Ave. at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100], www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

READING, MICHAEL SHOWALTER: Funnyman and author of “Mr. Funny Pants.” Free. 7 pm. WORD [126 Franklin Street between Milton and Noble streets in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096], www.wordbrooklyn.com.

READING, STEAMBOAT — A LITERARY HUMOR SERIES: Featuring Baratunde

Thurston, author of “How to Be Black,” and more. Free. 7:30 pm. Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200], greenlightbookstore.com.

OPEN AUDITIONS: The Kingsborough Musical Society Chorus is seeking choral singers. Sight-reading is helpful but not mandatory. Performance of a medley from the Broadway musical West Side Story is scheduled for May. Free. 7:30 pm. Kingsborough Community College [2001 Oriental Blvd. at Decatur Avenue in Manhattan Beach, (718) 338-9132].

THEATER, “FOLLOW THE LEADER”: 8:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 10.

FRI, FEB. 17

WORKSHOP, FUN FRIDAYS: 4 pm. See Friday, Feb. 10.

MUSIC, WILLIAM HOOKER: Free. 8 pm. BAMCafe [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129], www.bam.org.

THEATER, “FOLLOW THE LEADER”: 8:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 10.

SAT, FEB. 18

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, FLEETWOOD MAC COVER SHOW: Indie rock not-so-supergroup to perform Fleetwood Mac’s 1982 album “Mirage.” \$12. 8 pm. Littlefield [622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus, (718) 855-3388], www.littlefieldnyc.com.

THEATER, “FOLLOW THE LEADER”: 8:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 10.

MUSIC, THE JAZZ TWINS: The twin Le Boeuf brothers take over Sycamore for a night of uncanny jazz. \$10. 10 pm. Sycamore [1118 Cortelyou Rd. between Stratford and Westminster roads in Ditmas Park, (347) 240-5850], www.sycamorebrooklyn.com.

“So happy we tried Faros!”

“The service was friendly and accommodating; the atmosphere was clean and open; Most of all, the food was PHENOMENAL!”
— Yelp reviewer, Dec. 2011

FAROS

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Valentines Dinner

Tuesday February 14th, 2012

Prix Fixe \$45.00 per person
Includes glass of wine

Appetizers (choice of)

spanakopita
spinach pie with feta, onions, scallions and homemade filo crust

afroditi
mixed greens, halloumi cheese, figs, thyme, pomegranate with a light vinaigrette

calamariskaras
charcoal grilled whole calamari with olive oil, lemon and oregano

Main Course (choice of)

kotastakarvouna
grilled free range chicken breast with lemon dressing over rice pilaf

lavraki
grilled whole Greek sea bass with herbs, lemon and extra virgin olive oil

paidakiaskaras
two grilled lamb chops with roasted lemon potatoes or rice pilaf

Dessert

baklavas
layers of filo, toasted walnuts and almonds, topped with Greek syrup

samali
semolina cake

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DEADLINE: WED. 11 AM

BROOKLYN PAPER CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 02/06/2012, bearing Index Number NC-000121-12/K1, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Julia (Middle) Ruth Cadrain (Last) Katz. My present name is (First) Julia (Middle) Ruth (Last) Rubin-Cadrain AKA Julia Rubin-Cadrain. My present address is 106 7th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11215. My place of birth is Hartford, CT. My date of birth is November 16, 1982.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 02/07/2012, bearing Index Number NC-000126-12/K1, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Sioux (Middle) Kendria Arestina (Last) Greaux. My present name is (First) Kendria (Middle) Arestina (Last) Greaux AKA Kendria A. Greaux. My present address is 674 49th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11220. My place of birth is Brooklyn, N.Y. My date of birth is December 15, 1971.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 02/07/2012, bearing Index Number NC-000127-12/K1, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Gaines (Middle) Peyton (Last) Creane. My

present name is (First) Jennifer (Middle) Gaines (Last) Creane AKA Gaines Peyton Creane FKA Jennifer Gaines Peyton. My present address is 321 Clinton Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11205. My place of birth is Jacksonville, Florida. My date of birth is July 25, 1972.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 01/25/2012, bearing Index Number NC-000040-12/K1, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Anna (Middle) Jean (Last) Barnes. My present name is (First) Anna (Middle) Jean (Last) MacFarlane Barnes AKA Anna Jean Barnes AKA Anna Barnes. My present address is 219 Sackett St., Brooklyn, NY 11231. My place of birth is New York, N.Y. My date of birth is January 08, 1994.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 02/06/2012, bearing Index Number NC-000119-12/K1, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Carrie Mae (Last) Rose. My present name is (First) Carrie Mae (Middle) Schneider (Last) Kreyche AKA Carrie Mae Kreyche. My present address is 241 Taaffe Place, Brooklyn, NY 11205. My place of birth is Huntington, W.A. My date of birth is May 01, 1975.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings

County on 02/06/2012, bearing Index Number NC-000120-12/K1, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Cecilia (Last) Nieves. My present name is (First) Celsa (Middle) Nieves (Last) Acevedo AKA Cecilia Nieves. My present address is 255 Havemeyer Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211. My place of birth is Aguada, Puerto Rico. My date of birth is April 06, 1941.


I Store Green Self Storage will sell at public auction at 12 Hall Street, Brooklyn, NY all the personal property stored in its facility by: Tiffany Gonzales unit # B20068 of household good and misc items Sebastian Silva unit # B21128 of household good and misc items Mighty Dreamstreet unit # B212A of household good and misc items Ellsworth Lank unit # B22101 of household good and misc items Ellsworth Lank unit # B22102 of household good and misc items Terrena Owens unit # B22112 of household good and misc items Nathaniel Pringle unit B22128 of household good and misc items Matice Mcmillan unit # B22142 of household good and misc items Nathalie W. Wiesner unit # B2332 of household good and misc items Ellsworth Lank unit # B24004 of household good and misc items Florentina Santiago unit # B24040 of household good and misc items Allison Smith unit # B24063 of household good and misc items

Charles Laloma unit # B24073 of household good and misc items Lorenzo Dease unit # B24078 of household good and misc items Maria Velez unit # B25056 of household good and misc items Maria Velez unit # B25057 of household good and misc items Manuel Manga unit # B25101 of household good and misc items Franchon D. Priolenau unit # B2606 of household good and misc items Rachele Kemp unit # B2618 of household good and misc items Wanda Parker unit # B2669 of household good and misc items Helio Bodini unit # B2736 of household good and misc items Michael Marciante unit # B2778of household good and misc items Dan Randall unit # B27L16 of household good and misc items Rolan Joseph unit # B27L36 of household good and misc items John Tillman unit # N1N08 of household good and misc items

At 11am on February 16, 2012 at I Store Green Self Storage 12 Hall Street, Brooklyn, NY 11205 has proven Management as agent for I Store Green Self Storage.

Owner reserves the right to bid at auction, reject any or all bids, and to cancel or adjourn the sale without further notice. To resolve this claim, contact the Manager at 718-855-4477

State University of New York
Notice to Bidders



The State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center will receive sealed Proposals for Project No. BR-011 Titled: "SUNY Downstate Medical Center Upgrades to 3rd and 4th Floors at Bay Ridge" until 2:00 p.m. Local Time on Wednesday, March 7th, 2012. Submit bids to the office of Mr. Ray Selvadurai, Purchase Associate, Contracts and Procurement, SUNY Downstate Medical Center, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 113, Brooklyn, New York 11203. The proposals will then be publicly opened and read aloud at 811 New York Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11203 (Second Floor Conference Room).

All work on this Contract is to be completed within (60) calendar days, starting ten (10) calendar days after the contract approval date.

Bidding and Contract Documents may be examined free of charge at the campus at: SUNY Downstate Medical Center, 811 New York Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11203 (Second Floor Conference Room).

- A MANDATORY** Pre-bid Conference and Project Walk-through will be held on Wednesday, February 29th, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. with all contractors assembled at SUNY Downstate Medical Center at Bay Ridge in the Main Lobby, 699 92nd Street, Brooklyn, New York 11228. The mandatory conference will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. No individual or additional walk-through will be performed under the pre-bid time period. Only bidders who attend the Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference and Project Walkthrough will be permitted to submit a proposal on this project.
- Qualifications of Bidders:**
 - All prospective bidders are hereby notified that, on request of the University, they must be able to prove to the satisfaction of the University that they have the skill and experience, as well as the necessary facilities, ample financial resources, organization and general reliability to do the work to be performed under the provisions of the Contract in a satisfactory manner and within the time specified.
 - All prospective bidders must have a minimum (5) years experience in installing electrical mechanical services of similar size, scope and complexity for **healthcare facilities**.
 - All prospective bidders must be able to provide an on-site installation supervisor with a minimum five (5) years experience managing the installation of electrical and mechanical services of similar size, scope and complexity for **healthcare facilities**.
 - All prospective bidders must be prepared to show to the satisfaction of the University that it has working capital available for the Project upon which it is bidding in an amount equal to 15 percent of the first \$100,000 of the amount of its Total Bid plus 10 percent of the next \$900,000 plus 5 percent of the remainder of its Total Bid. Working capital is defined as the excess of current assets over current liabilities. The University defines current assets as assets which can be reasonably expected to be converted into cash within a year, and current liabilities as debts which will have to be paid within a year.
 - All prospective bidders must also be prepared to prove, to the satisfaction of the University, that it has successfully completed a contract of similar work in a healthcare facility in an amount of not less than 50 percent of the amount of its Total Bid.
 - All prospective bidders and sub-consultants must be licensed professionals in the State of New York.

Complete sets of Contract Documents for bidding may be obtained from:
Ray Selvadurai, Purchase Associate, Contracts and Procurement Department,
SUNY Downstate Medical Center, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 113, Brooklyn, NY 11203,
Tel: (718) 826-4943, email: ray.selvadurai@downstate.edu

Section 143 of the State Finance Law requires payment of a deposit to receive these documents. Accordingly, a deposit check of \$49.00, made payable to SUNY Downstate Medical Center is required. Deposits less than \$50.00 are nonrefundable. Bids must be submitted in duplicate in accordance with the instructions contained in the Information for Bidders. Security will be required for each bid in an amount not less than five (5) percent of the Total Bid.

It is the policy of the State of New York and the State University of New York to encourage minority business enterprise participation in this project by contractors, subcontractors and suppliers, and all bidders are expected to cooperate in implementing this policy.

The State University of New York reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

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